

Elaine Bernard--Harvard Trade Union Program Al Lewis--Organizer ("Grandpa" from the Munsters) Dee Dee Halleck--Deep Dish TV Ben Bagdikian--University of California, Berkeley Loretta Ross--Executive Director, National Center for Human Rights Education Carl Jensen--Founder, Project Censored Ellen Braune--Publicist Jamie Love--Director, Consumer Project on Technology Dan Simon--Founder, Seven Stories Press Juliet Schor--Harvard University Herbert Schiller--Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego Barbara Ehrenreich--Author Gloria Steinem--Ms. Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist Kurt Vonnegut-- Author ----- MEC Honorary Chair: Robert W. McChesney, Madison Steering Committee: Sara Zia Ebrahimi, Philadelphia Diane Fleming, Philadelphia Peter Franck, San Francisco Amanda Huron, Washington, D.C. Alan Korn, San Francisco Greg Ruggiero, New York City

Additional Comments=Just to be able to hear another's musical appreciation can bind generations by allowing diverse selections to be heard. I ask the Chairman of the FCC.... How many times have you "accidentally" tuned into a station that is playing bubble gum music from the 60's or 70's. . . and just as quickly changed the station? Travel to Fresno and you hear the same junk as is on the radio in Milwaukee, New York, Pocatello, or Coral Gables. It is all from the same sources. I guarantee that the migrant worker in the fields in Bakersfield would listen to a news station that had information about his or her relative issues. . . I can also guarantee that outside of those fields alot more people couldn't care less. So let 'em have what they want. Let us all have what we want. A forum. A non commercial forum. A needed forum for Americans. A way to express ourselves. The non serious will fall by thwe wayside, but at least give folks a crack at it! I am a Grandfather and am SO excited about this, I'm ready to sell off almost all of my possessions so that I can get my voice, music, opinion, and corny jokes on the air. Maybe a lost soul will come to Jesus. Maybe a corporate executive will find relaxation. Maybe your children and grandchildren will have a valuable source of community information. The possibilities are only limited by how we are limited as a people. You cannot tell what I am dreaming unless I let you in on it. I will if given the chance.

name=Bob Balsley
street=PO Box 17137
city=Fresno
state=CA
zip=93744
=Send to FCC

ORIGINAL

From: debi <hippie@laplaza.org>
To: K2DOM.K2PO1(GTRISTAN),K4DOM.K4PO2(MPOWELL,SNES),K...
Date: Fri, Jul 9, 1999 10:19 AM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

=To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,
Commissioner Gloria Tristani,
Commissioner Michael Powell
Commissioner Susan Ness
Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals 455 Twelfth Street S.W. Washington, DC 20554
cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton Vice President Al Gore,
Bill Bradley, and George Bush, Jr.
cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition

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JUL 13 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

MM Docket No. 99-25
Regarding The Creation of Low Power FM Licenses: RM-9242, RM-9208

Dear Honorable Chairman Kennard,

We are writing to commend you and the Federal Communications Commission for taking action on an issue of great importance to us - ending the 21-year ban on community access to the airwaves. We have become increasingly concerned about the growing concentration of the media in our country and are pleased that the Commission is responding to public outcry to increase opportunities for local communities to use our radio airwaves.

One of the fundamental tenets of our democracy is to ensure that diverse interests have opportunities to express themselves, not merely to be the recipients of what a handful of other people tell them. It is a nonnegotiable component of our right to a free press and free speech.

Radio is perhaps the most qualified of any media outlet to provide community access. It is a relatively inexpensive medium to produce and is well-suited to cover community issues and local culture. Unfortunately, over the past three years the U.S. radio broadcasting industry has experienced an unprecedented wave of consolidation and mergers. As a result, the electronic medium best suited to inexpensive, local programming has become arguably the most regimented and centralized of our major media. Even a multimillionaire would have trouble entering the radio broadcasting industry today, because economies of scale (permitted by deregulation) demand that a firm own numerous stations in several markets to be even remotely competitive. As for the person of average means, their lot is limited to being a passive consumer of an increasingly monopolistic industry that has less and less competitive pressure to heed the diverse, local needs of listeners. And, for poor people and others who are considered unimportant to the advertising community, radio increasingly has little to offer. Again, the great tragedy of this situation is that radio is the ideal medium to provide an accessible local service for democratic communications of interest and value to the entire population.

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Awarding licenses for new low power FM radio stations would empower local communities with a new public forum to express its many voices, cultures, ideas, and needs. Low power radio stations would create much needed public fora for a variety of groups - including community activists, youth, ethnic and linguistic minorities, the religious community, local artists and cultural associations - and provide a forum for dialogue and debate about important local and public interest issues. These kinds of stations would strengthen community identity in urban neighborhoods, rural towns and other communities which are currently too small to win attention from "mainstream", profit-driven media.

The strong interest in independent radio stations shows that the creation of low power radio service would have wide public support. The tremendous demand for microradio is demonstrated by the emergence of a national Free Radio Movement, widespread civil disobedience, constitutional challenges of the Commission's aggressively enforced 21-year ban, as well as the proliferation of unlicensed community radio stations supported by local government, whose operators broadcast at the risk of financial losses, seizure of property, arrest, and in some cases, imprisonment.

In addition, the Commission has stated that in the last year alone, 13,000 people inquired regarding the possibility of obtaining a license for low power broadcasting in their communities. In support with the efforts of the Microradio Empowerment Coalition (mec@tao.ca), we urge you to legalize microradio in order to benefit non-commercial community groups whose interest in microradio is to communicate, to educate, and to inform, not to make money. We are confident you agree that broad citizen access to information and culture is at the heart of a democratic society.

To support this vision, we urge you to legalize microradio with the following concerns in mind:

1. Microradio licenses should be awarded for non-commercial use only. The current radio spectrum is dominated by commercial media. LPFM licenses should go to non-commercial community groups who want to use radio to communicate with their neighbors, not make profit from them.
2. Licenses should be held locally, be non-transferable, affordable to all communities, easy to apply for and limited to one per license holder; they should NOT be businesses.
3. Power levels should be up to 100 watts in urban areas and up to 250 watts in rural areas.
4. The Commission should NOT diminish new low-power stations to "secondary status." It would be a tragedy to take away licenses from low-power community stations just because the Commission subsequently granted a power increase to a pre-existing station or granted a new high power license somewhere nearby.
5. The Commission should grant full amnesty for the microbroadcast

pioneers who have suffered government seizure and fines. Their property should be returned. They should be granted equal opportunity in applying for and receiving new licenses.

6. Problems, technical or otherwise, should be referred to the local voluntary micropower organization for assistance or mediation (e.g. the Ham radio model). The FCC should be the forum of last resort.

7. LPFM must be protected and maintained in the future as radio makes the transition from analog to digital broadcasting.

8. If the FCC intends to license some commercial stations, they must be licensed last. In this instance, there should be a 2 year "headstart" for non-commercial licenses. The right of citizens to communicate is protected by the Constitution and the FCC's mandate. The right to make money through local radio is not a protection under the FCC's mandate.

9. Stations should be locally programmed. However recorded materials such as music, poetry, documentaries, features etc. may be used. Sharing of program materials and resources among micro and community stations is strongly encouraged. No more than 20% of air time from off-site feeds or syndicated tapes.

10. Licenses should be awarded to unincorporated non-commercial associations, and non-profit organizations.

11. Within two years new spectrum space (including any future digital spectrum space) should be allocated for continued expansion of microradio broadcasters so that any community group that wishes to broadcast has access to available spectrum space (frequencies). Further, all manufacturers of consumer radio receivers for sale in the United States should be required to include this spectrum set aside for microradio broadcasters.

12. Licensing fees should be affordable to all communities.

Again, we commend Chairman Kennard and the Commission for your willingness to address these issues. We are hopeful that the creation of a new class of low power FM radio licensing becomes a reality during the Chairman's present term. We look forward to working on making the airwaves more accessible for our local communities.

Signed,

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Diane Fleming, Philadelphia
Peter Franck, San Francisco
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Barbara Ehrenreich--Author
Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=
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city=ranchos de taos
state=nm
zip=87557
=Send to FCC

ORIGINAL

From: Visual Radio <vra@webtv.net>
To: K1DOM.K1PO1(BKENNARD),ROUTE_A.GWIA1("John_Kerry@ke...
Date: Wed, Jun 23, 1999 1:20 AM
Subject: FCC/LPFM Letter

Chairman William Kennard
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
445 12th St., SW
Washington, DC 20554

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Chairman Kennard:

I am writing in support of your proposal to create a low power radio service. I have been concerned about the changes in radio that have occurred over the last few years, most particularly, the loss of localism and the abdication of many radio stations from any serious public interest responsibility.

Given that almost everyone has a radio, the potential of that medium to fulfill a democratizing and inclusive cultural mission is enormous. Radio should reflect the tremendous diversity of our culture, serving as a point of entry for newly arrived and non-English speaking Americans, providing information and discussions of important local issues and making available cultural/musical programming that is deemed not demographically appealing enough for broadcasters to carry.

Citizens with something to say should be able to know they have access to a small, locally-based station which is run by their neighbors.

I feel that the 1-10 watt and 50-100 watt stations are the heart and soul of this proposal and should be prioritized. Although I believe that the 500-1000 watt service can be included, such stations should not be allowed in urban areas, where crowded radio dials will allow for very few new stations as it is.

To fulfill its most important function- accessibility-LPFM owners should be restricted to a single station and should live close to the broadcast area of the station. Cross-media ownership should not be allowed.

An article I've written on Low Power FM will be published in The Woburn Advocate this week. I am sending a copy of the article to you with this letter. The article points out how the cable companies have made an extra effort to censor and keep the general public

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off of the Access property and from communicating ideas. Here are two examples:

MediaOne refuses to put the phone number of the access station in the telephone book, or list it with directory assistance. Cablevision of Boston is guilty of this reprehensible omission as well. However, MediaOne have now crossed the line by demanding a "wrap around" to keep "bicycled tapes" (ideas from other communities that a member of another community requests to see on their access station) from getting to the public. This goes totally against the spirit of what Public Access or P/E/G Programming is all about - access for the public to the television medium. Even Charles Shannon, a Senator with an office in Somerville (where he tapes his show), is not allowed to be on in Winchester (where he lives) or Woburn (where I live), without a "wrap around" tape produced by the "sponsor" from that city IN THE MEDIAONE studio.

This blatant and evil action by the cable provider is another reason why Low Power FM is absolutely vital for the well being of our communities.

My article is being sent to Billboard Magazine, The Boston Globe, and other media in hopes that they will print it as well.

With American Radio Systems (Steve Dodge, who came from cable television) having purchased all the talk stations in Boston, then selling to CBS, then selling WRKO to Entercom, they drove a spike through the spirit of competition that our great country was built upon. With CBS radio CEO Mel Karmazin fully aware of the blatant restraint of trade activities by the Program Director and General Manager of WBCN in Boston (along with the rumors of payola and drugs in exchange for airplay, which I know for a fact are not rumors - I've repeatedly asked Ed Hyson, the Program Director, to sue me if my "accusations" are false, and in 13 years he has allowed me to write to my Congressman, Senators, to the FCC and to the Media about the shameless and illegal activities conducted at 1265 Boylston St in Boston, without suing me, which I believe is just another piece of evidence proving Hyson's guilt), it is absolutely imperative that the FCC allow the communication of

ideas to flow freely once again.

Free speech is choked by the major corporations who are not quality broadcasters and who stifle creativity and independent thought.

I commend you for your foresight in proposing this service and hope that you are able to succeed in your plan to open up the airwaves to new voices.

cc:John F. Kerry
Ted Kennedy
Barney Frank
Ed Markey
Charles Shannon
Mel Karmazin, CEO CBS
Steven Mindich, Boston Phoenix
Marjorie Pritchard, Boston Globe
On Your Side, The Boston Herald
Steve Provizer, Citizens' Media Corps

Sincerely Yours,

joe vigilione
producer/host
VISUAL RADIO
tel:(781)935 5386
(781)YELL FUN

<http://www.visualradio.cjb.net>

<http://pages.prodigy.net/millermedia/pubmac/>

Visual Radio Productions
P.O. Box 2392
Woburn, MA 01888

CC: Steve Provizer, CMC <Improviz@gis.net>, TedKennedy...

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

From: James Pickell <jamesP@DeadPool.org>
To: K2DOM.K2PO1(GTRISTAN),K4DOM.K4PO2(MPOWELL,SNESS),K...
Date: Fri, Jul 9, 1999 2:13 AM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

=To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,
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Commissioner Michael Powell
Commissioner Susan Ness
Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth
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cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore,
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Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=

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city=Seattle
state=WA
zip=98103-8653
=Send to FCC

<mailto:JamesP@DeadPool.org>JamesP@DeadPool.org

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

From: Brenna <brenna@freespeechseattle.org>
To: K2DOM.K2PO1(GTRISTAN),K4DOM.K4PO2(MPOWELL,SNESS),K...
Date: Thu, Jul 8, 1999 11:14 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=
name=Brenna Wolf
street=5209 18th Ave NE
city=Seattle
state=WA
zip=98105
=Send to FCC

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From: Trey Valenta <trey@drugstore.com>
To: K2DOM.K2PO1(GTRISTAN),K4DOM.K4PO2(MPOWELL,SNES),K...
Date: Thu, Jul 8, 1999 10:22 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

=To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,
Commissioner Gloria Tristani,
Commissioner Michael Powell
Commissioner Susan Ness
Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals 455 Twelfth Street S.W. Washington, DC 20554
cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore,
Bill Bradley, and George Bush, Jr.
cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition

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JUL 13 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

99-25

MM Docket No. 99-25
Regarding The Creation of Low Power FM Licenses: RM-9242, RM-9208

Dear Honorable Chairman Kennard,

We are writing to commend you and the Federal Communications Commission for taking action on an issue of great importance to us - ending the 21-year ban on community access to the airwaves. We have become increasingly concerned about the growing concentration of the media in our country and are pleased that the Commission is responding to public outcry to increase opportunities for local communities to use our radio airwaves.

One of the fundamental tenets of our democracy is to ensure that diverse interests have opportunities to express themselves, not merely to be the recipients of what a handful of other people tell them. It is a nonnegotiable component of our right to a free press and free speech.

Radio is perhaps the most qualified of any media outlet to provide community access. It is a relatively inexpensive medium to produce and is well-suited to cover community issues and local culture. Unfortunately, over the past three years the U.S. radio broadcasting industry has experienced an unprecedented wave of consolidation and mergers. As a result, the electronic medium best suited to inexpensive, local programming has become arguably the most regimented and centralized of our major media. Even a multimillionaire would have trouble entering the radio broadcasting industry today, because economies of scale (permitted by deregulation) demand that a firm own numerous stations in several markets to be even remotely competitive. As for the person of average means, their lot is limited to being a passive consumer of an increasingly monopolistic industry that has less and less competitive pressure to heed the diverse, local needs of listeners. And, for poor people and others who are considered unimportant to the advertising community, radio increasingly has little to offer. Again, the great tragedy of this situation is that radio is the ideal medium to provide an accessible local service for democratic communications of interest and value to the entire population.

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Awarding licenses for new low power FM radio stations would empower local communities with a new public forum to express its many voices, cultures, ideas, and needs. Low power radio stations would create much needed public fora for a variety of groups - including community activists, youth, ethnic and linguistic minorities, the religious community, local artists and cultural associations - and provide a forum for dialogue and debate about important local and public interest issues. These kinds of stations would strengthen community identity in urban neighborhoods, rural towns and other communities which are currently too small to win attention from "mainstream", profit-driven media.

The strong interest in independent radio stations shows that the creation of low power radio service would have wide public support. The tremendous demand for microradio is demonstrated by the emergence of a national Free Radio Movement, widespread civil disobedience, constitutional challenges of the Commission's aggressively enforced 21-year ban, as well as the proliferation of unlicensed community radio stations supported by local government, whose operators broadcast at the risk of financial losses, seizure of property, arrest, and in some cases, imprisonment.

In addition, the Commission has stated that in the last year alone, 13,000 people inquired regarding the possibility of obtaining a license for low power broadcasting in their communities. In support with the efforts of the Microradio Empowerment Coalition (mec@tao.ca), we urge you to legalize microradio in order to benefit non-commercial community groups whose interest in microradio is to communicate, to educate, and to inform, not to make money. We are confident you agree that broad citizen access to information and culture is at the heart of a democratic society.

To support this vision, we urge you to legalize microradio with the following concerns in mind:

1. Microradio licenses should be awarded for non-commercial use only. The current radio spectrum is dominated by commercial media. LPFM licenses should go to non-commercial community groups who want to use radio to communicate with their neighbors, not make profit from them.

2. Licenses should be held locally, be non-transferable, affordable to all communities, easy to apply for and limited to one per license holder; they should NOT be businesses.

3. Power levels should be up to 100 watts in urban areas and up to 250 watts in rural areas.

4. The Commission should NOT diminish new low-power stations to "secondary status." It would be a tragedy to take away licenses from low-power community stations just because the Commission subsequently granted a power increase to a pre-existing station or granted a new high power license somewhere nearby.

5. The Commission should grant full amnesty for the microbroadcast

pioneers who have suffered government seizure and fines. Their property should be returned. They should be granted equal opportunity in applying for and receiving new licenses.

6. Problems, technical or otherwise, should be referred to the local voluntary micropower organization for assistance or mediation (e.g. the Ham radio model). The FCC should be the forum of last resort.

7. LPFM must be protected and maintained in the future as radio makes the transition from analog to digital broadcasting.

8. If the FCC intends to license some commercial stations, they must be licensed last. In this instance, there should be a 2 year "headstart" for non-commercial licenses. The right of citizens to communicate is protected by the Constitution and the FCC's mandate. The right to make money through local radio is not a protection under the FCC's mandate.

9. Stations should be locally programmed. However recorded materials such as music, poetry, documentaries, features etc. may be used. Sharing of program materials and resources among micro and community stations is strongly encouraged. No more than 20% of air time from off-site feeds or syndicated tapes.

10. Licenses should be awarded to unincorporated non-commercial associations, and non-profit organizations.

11. Within two years new spectrum space (including any future digital spectrum space) should be allocated for continued expansion of microradio broadcasters so that any community group that wishes to broadcast has access to available spectrum space (frequencies). Further, all manufacturers of consumer radio receivers for sale in the United States should be required to include this spectrum set aside for microradio broadcasters.

12. Licensing fees should be affordable to all communities.

Again, we commend Chairman Kennard and the Commission for your willingness to address these issues. We are hopeful that the creation of a new class of low power FM radio licensing becomes a reality during the Chairman's present term. We look forward to working on making the airwaves more accessible for our local communities.

Signed,

MEC Honorary Chair:
Robert W. McChesney, Madison

Steering Committee:
Sara Zia Ebrahimi, Philadelphia
Diane Fleming, Philadelphia
Peter Franck, San Francisco
Amanda Huron, Washington, D.C.
Alan Korn, San Francisco
Greg Ruggiero, New York City

Robert W. McChesney-- University Of Illinois, Urbana

Noam Chomsky--Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Howard Zinn--Professor Emeritus, Boston University
Nancy Kranich--Librarian
Ron Daniels--Executive Director ,Center for Constitutional Rights
George Gerbner--Founder, Cultural Environment Movement
Edward Herman--Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
Janine Jackson--Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting
Mark Crispin Miller--New York University
Laura Flanders--national producer for Pacifica Radio
David Barsamian--Director, Alternative Radio
Stewart Ewen -- Author
Elaine Bernard--Harvard Trade Union Program
Al Lewis--Organizer ("Grandpa" from the Munsters)
Dee Dee Halleck--Deep Dish TV
Ben Bagdikian--University of California, Berkeley
Loretta Ross--Executive Director, National Center for Human Rights Education
Carl Jensen--Founder, Project Censored
Ellen Braune--Publicist
Jamie Love--Director, Consumer Project on Technology
Dan Simon--Founder, Seven Stories Press
Juliet Schor--Harvard University
Herbert Schiller--Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego
Barbara Ehrenreich--Author
Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=
name=Frank Valenta
street=732 11th Ave Apt 305
city=Seattle
state=WA
zip=98102
=Send to FCC

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RECEIVED

From: Joe Mabel <jmabel@saltmine.com>
To: "bkennard@fcc.gov" <bkennard@fcc.gov>, "sness@f...
Date: Thu, Jul 8, 1999 8:51 PM
Subject: Micropower radio

JUL 13 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
 OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

I'm writing writing to commend the Federal Communications Commission for taking action to end the 21-year ban on micropower radio.

One of the fundamental tenets of our democracy is to ensure that diverse interests have opportunities to express themselves, not merely to be the recipients of what a handful of other people tell them. It is a nonnegotiable component of our right to a free press and free speech.

I urge you to consider the MEC's proposal on this front:

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1. Microradio licenses should be awarded for non-commercial use only. The current radio spectrum is dominated by commercial media. LPFM licenses should go to non-commercial community groups who want to use radio to communicate with their neighbors, not make profit from them.
2. Licenses should be held locally, be non-transferable, affordable to all communities, easy to apply for and limited to one per license holder; they should NOT be businesses.
3. Power levels should be up to 100 watts in urban areas and up to 250 watts in rural areas.
4. The Commission should NOT diminish new low-power stations to "secondary status." It would be a tragedy to take away licenses from low-power community stations just because the Commission subsequently granted a power increase to a pre-existing station or granted a new high power license somewhere nearby.
5. The Commission should grant full amnesty for the microbroadcast pioneers who have suffered government seizure and fines. Their property should be returned. They should be granted equal opportunity in applying for and receiving new licenses.
6. Problems, technical or otherwise, should be referred to the local voluntary micropower organization for assistance or mediation (e.g. the Ham radio model). The FCC should be the forum of last resort.
7. LPFM must be protected and maintained in the future as radio makes the transition from analog to digital broadcasting.
8. If the FCC intends to license some commercial stations, they must be licensed last. In this instance, there should be a 2 year "headstart" for non-commercial licenses. The right of citizens to communicate is protected by the Constitution and the FCC's mandate. The right to make money through local radio is not a protection under the FCC's mandate.
9. Stations should be locally programmed. However recorded materials such as music, poetry, documentaries, features etc. may be used. Sharing of program materials and resources among micro and community stations is

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strongly encouraged. No more than 20% of air time from off-site feeds or syndicated tapes.

10. Licenses should be awarded to unincorporated non-commercial associations, and non-profit organizations.

11. Within two years new spectrum space (including any future digital spectrum space) should be allocated for continued expansion of microradio broadcasters so that any community group that wishes to broadcast has access to available spectrum space (frequencies). Further, all manufacturers of consumer radio receivers for sale in the United States should be required to include this spectrum set aside for microradio broadcasters.

12. Licensing fees should be affordable to all communities.

Again, we commend Chairman Kennard and the Commission for your willingness to address these issues. We are hopeful that the creation of a new class of low power FM radio licensing becomes a reality during the Chairman's present term. We look forward to working on making the airwaves more accessible for our local communities.

Joe Mabel
206-284-7511

"Pay no attention to the man behind the curtain." L. Frank Baum

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JUL 13 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

From: Tom J. Marhefka <TJM@townsqr.com>
To: K1DOM.K1PO1(BKENNARD)
Date: Tue, Jun 29, 1999 3:36 PM
Subject: Comments to the Chairman

Tom J. Marhefka (TJM@townsqr.com) writes:

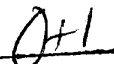
Mr Chairman/Mr Kennard

This letter is being sent to voice my objection to the approval of low watt FM radio stations in the USA. I am the President of the Central Ozark Radio Network based in West Plains, Missouri. Our network consists of eight radio stations (5 FM's, 3AM) in south central Missouri. All of the stations are located in small rural towns and struggle year to year to produce positive cash flow. We take great pride in serving our local communities. Competing with network news, TV, and now satellite radio and the internet is a huge challenge. Hometown stations have to be the source for local news, weather, sports and community events or we're going out of business (It's all we have left to serve). Please don't add low watt stations to compete with us. We've got plenty to worry about already.

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Remote host: 208.207.71.161
Remote IP address: 208.207.71.161

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From: James Pendergast <jependergast@vom.com>
To: "William E. Kennard" <fccinfo@fcc.gov>
Date: Thu, Jun 10, 1999 9:20 AM
Subject: Microradio

Dear Chairman Kennard:

We wish to express our wholehearted support for licensing of microradio stations; they are valuable sources of the diversity that is fast disappearing from our culture. We believe that those stations that are already broadcasting should be allowed to continue under license. After all, the public owns the airwaves and should have the right to make use of these small bits of airspace, while the big broadcasters dominate the radio spectrum, rake in millions, and pay back nothing for their use of the public's property.

Sincerely,

James and Maria Pendergast

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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From: MYRNA SOKOLINSKY <sokol2@earthlink.net>
To: K1DOM.K1PO1(BKENNARD)
Date: Thu, Jun 10, 1999 1:26 PM
Subject: microradio stations

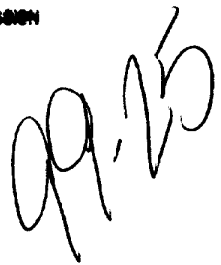
JUL 13 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Microradio stations should be licensed and legal, including microradio stations which are currently being operated. Licenses for microradio stations should be affordable. There should be no required minimum wattage. Microradio stations should be required to be nonprofit.

Sincerely,

Myrna Sokolinsky



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